## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT			25X1
SUBJECT	St. Egidien Nickel Plant	DATE DISTR.		29 April	1954
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- Production at the St. Egidien nickel plant was stopped at the end of November 1953 owing to the unsatisfactory results achieved. Between mid-July and November only about 30 metric tons of the metal had been produced from 2,940 tons of ore.
- 2. The chief causes of the failure were:
  - (a) inadequate supplies of ore, and
  - (b) faulty construction of the furnace.

The fire-proof linings of the furnace gave constant trouble causing interruption in operations and the oil burners frequently failed to maintain the necessary degree of heat. These difficulties led to the suspension of work on the second furnace under construction. The engineers responsible, Hartel (fnu) and Stolkowski (fnu), were arrested.

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